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*** 4 2 5 D X N E W S ***

**** DX INFORMATION ****

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Edited by I1JQJ & IK1ADH
Direttore Responsabile I2VGW

Owing to the ongoing and fluid nature of the COVID-19 situation globally, announced activities might be postponed or cancelled at any time and without notice.

- EA - Special callsigns AO5DXX (Spain) and AO5DXX/8 (Canary Islands) will be active on 1-15 April to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the DXE Group. Also look for TM15DXE to be active from France during the same time frame. QSLs via LoTW only.
- OK - Special callsigns OL700CO, OL700DKO and OL700LTV are active until 31 December to mark the 700th anniversary of the Czech city of Dobruska. See <http://www.ok1kqi.com/ol700/ol700.html> for information about the award programme. QSL via Club Log's OQRS.
- SP - Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the birth of Pope John Paul II, born Karol Wojtyla (1920-2005), special event station SN100KW will be active from 1 April to 31 May. QSL via SP3PGS.
- TA - The Istanbul based Tango Alpha Ham Radio Club (YM1KE) will be active as TC1STAYHOME from 27 March to 25 May. This is a "COVID-19 Awareness Special Event" to stress the need to stay at home to avoid contagion.
- VK - VI50AWS is the special callsign for the Western and Northern Suburbs Amateur Radio Club (VK3AWS, <https://www.wansarc.org.au/>) to celebrate its 50th anniversary. The special callsign was allocated on 1 March and will be available for club members to use until 31 August.
- VK - Grant, VK5GR has announced that "following the announcement by the RSGB about the IOTA Contest [see below, Ed.] and the increasing restrictions on travel and group assembly here in Australia, the team has decided to suspend the planning for VK5KI on OC-139. Once the world returns to some sense of normality we will start replanning works". VK5KI was expected to be active from Kangaroo Island on 22-28 July, IOTA Contest included [425DXN 1499]
- VK9N - Janusz, SP9FIH says he will "have to stay on Norfolk Island for some more time", as all his flights have been cancelled. He plans to change QTH on 10 April, and to continue being QRV as VK9NK (<http://vk9nk.dxpedititions.org/>).
- XE - Celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Asociacion de Radio Aficionados de la Republica Mexicana (ARARM), 4A60A and other nine special callsigns (4A60C, 4A60E, 4A60F, 4A60I, 4A60M, 4A60N, 4A60O, 4A60S and 4A60X) will be active from 27 March to 26 July. See <https://www.ararm.com.mx/> for more information.

CQ WW WPX SSB CONTEST ---> The following stations have announced their participation in this year's event (28-29 March):

Call	Category	Country	QSL
3Z50DVP	SO	Poland	LoTW/SP6DVP
4L2M	SOSB	Georgia	EA7FTR
A42K	SO	Oman	LoTW/EA5GL
CS5CT		Portugal	CT1REP
FM5AN	SO	Martinique	LoTW
FM5BH	SOAB HP	Martinique	LoTW/W3HNL
GT0SP		Isle of Man	LoTW
HH2AA	SO LP	Haiti	LoTW
LX20I	M/?	Luxembourg	LX2A
LY73A	SOSB 160m HP	Lithuania	LY5AA
NP2P	SO	US Virgin Islands	LoTW
OE0WWL	SO	Austria	LoTW/OE1WWL
PT7ZT		Brazil	LoTW/PT7ZT
PY0F	SOAB	Fernando de Noronha	LoTW/PY7RP
T42DX	M/S LP	Cuba	CO2AME
VK9NK	SOAB	Norfolk Island	SP9FIH
XM3T	SOAB	Canada	VE3DZ
YB2DX	SOAB	Indonesia	LoTW
YJ0CA	SO	Vanuatu	VK2YUS
ZZ4A	M/S	Brazil	LoTW/PY2RMZ

Do not forget to give a look at the Announced Operations listing maintained by Bill, NG3K at <https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/wpxs2020.html> - good contest to you all!

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**** GOOD TO KNOW ... ****
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Access to the main functions of www.425dxn.org is provided by the 425DXN App for Android. It is available on Google Play - free of charge, no ads. Enjoy!

COVID-19 PANDEMIC ---> Travel restrictions, self-isolation and social distancing requirements as well as general health and safety issues arising from the coronavirus pandemic are affecting quite a number of operations and amateur radio events, which have been postponed or cancelled:

HC5 by DL8UD	19 March-1 April	cancelled
CQ3W	WPX SSB	cancelled
KH2KY	WPX SSB	cancelled
KH7M	WPX SSB	cancelled
NH7A	WPX SSB	cancelled
TC4PLH	WPX SSB	cancelled
YB0/JJ1DQR	WPX SSB	cancelled
Z66Y	WPX SSB	cancelled
J88PI	6-14 April	cancelled
IP1A	1-3 May	cancelled
A25VR	1-22 May	postponed to 2021
PA2020IG	9-16 May	cancelled
V6TOPG2020	June-September	postponed to 2021

VK5KI

22-28 July

cancelled

Among the cancelled events are the International Marconi Day (25 April), the YOTA sub-regional camp in Hungary (11-15 June), the Youth Contest Program at EC2DX in Spain (27-28 June) and the first IARU Region 3 YOTA Camp (planned for 1-3 October in Thailand).

CLUB LOG & FOLDING@HOME ---> As of 21 March Michael, G7VJR has allocated "100% of Club Log's computing resources to scientific research into COVID-19 proteins, as part of the Folding@Home project. Club Log is contributing 120 CPU cores (most running at 3.4GHz) to this project. I have taken the decision to give this work higher priority than Club Log's usual amateur radio functions, so you may see uploads take slightly longer. I do not think most users will notice the additional wait, but I've added a warning to the upload form inside Club Log to explain. You can get involved, too. Club Log has a Folding@Home team, number 246763. You can read more about this distributed computing project at <https://foldingathome.org/> (Coronavirus - What we're doing and how you can help in simple terms)".

HAMVENTION QSO PARTY ---> The Dayton Hamvention for 2020 has been cancelled. The World Wide Radio Operators Foundation, in cooperation with the Hamvention organizers, want to create a fun way for people to celebrate the Hamvention experience over the air: the Hamvention QSO Party. It will be held on 16 May, from 12 to 24 UTC (twelve hours), on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 metres CW and SSB. Only single operator entries are accepted, and the exchange will be signal report + the first year you attended Hamvention (if you have never attended, send 2020). Work as many stations as possible, including W8BI (the club call of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association) which will give special bonus points. See <https://wwrof.org/hamvention-qso-party/> for detailed information. The event will be in memory of Ron Moorefield (W8ILC), who attended every Hamvention since the beginning and passed away just two days after the Hamvention 2020 cancellation announcement.

IARU REGION 1 CONTESTS ---> Radio amateurs will share the concerns of everyone about the seriousness of the COVID-19 outbreak. Governments all over the world are advising "social distancing" to slow the spread of the virus and to give health services the chance to cope.

Field days bring radio amateurs together and therefore represent an environment where social distancing is difficult to achieve. We must recognise that many radio amateurs are in the older, higher risk age groups.

IARU Region 1 therefore asks national societies which promote field days and multi-operator contests to reconsider their position on these events for the next few months of 2020. Field days are essentially team contests, and so IARU will not sponsor the Region 1 HF-CW Field Day in June. It is a matter for national societies to decide whether and how they continue with their national field day events.

IARU Region 1 believes more generally that multi-operator contests are not consistent with the principle of "social distancing" and should not be promoted at this time.

The position on other IARU events in 2020 which involve multi-operator categories is under review. [Don Beattie (G3BJ), President IARU Region 1, <https://www.iaru-rl.org/>]

INTERNATIONAL MARCONI DAY ---> Organized by the Cornish Radio Amateur Club,

(<http://gx4crc.com/gb4imd/>), this year's event was due to be held on 25 April, but it has been cancelled in the light of the concerns arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

INTREPID SPIRIT AWARD ---> The Intrepid-DX Group is pleased to announce that this year's award goes to the Perseverance DX Group's VP8PJ South Orkney Islands team (DJ9RR, HA0NAR, HB9BXE, K3EL, K5GS, N6XG, N7QT, NG2H, UT6UD, VK6CQ, W1SRD, W2LK, W7XU and WA6O) "for their superb activation from Signy Island. This DXpedition was extremely well planned and executed from this very remote, cold and harsh island". The Intrepid-DX Group recognizes "the entire team's collective effort to activate these challenging and much needed entities on behalf of a grateful Global DX Community", and acknowledges "the team's pursuit of operating excellence in making these difficult activations". Made in memory of James McLaughlin, WA2EWE/T6AF (killed in Kabul, Afghanistan, on 27 April 2011), the Intrepid Spirit Award "is intended to recognize and honor those individuals or teams that boldly activate rare entities where their own personal safety is secondary to their pursuit of providing contacts to the DX Community". [TNX N6PSE]

IOTA CONTEST 2020 ---> "We have reached a point with COVID-19 that it is inappropriate for us to run the IOTA Contest in July 2020 in its usual format", Nick Totterdell, G4FAL (RSGB HF Contest Committee's chair) says. "We cannot encourage our participants to operate in multi-operator groups, nor to travel to island locations where visitors are not currently welcome. We would like your opinion on whether we should cancel outright or should retain a contest this year for single operator, home stations only. We are also conscious that a large number of our members are going to be spending more time at home than normal. Unable to enjoy many of our favourite outdoor contests we are proposing a series of home-based day-time contests to entertain and support one another. Both these issues are detailed in a survey which we invite you to complete. This is at https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RSGB_HFCC_2020. The survey is open until 3 April, after which the outcomes will be made public".

RI0B ---> The RI0B team made about 5,600 QSOs during their IOTA operation from Rastorguyev Island (18-22 March). The log has been uploaded to Club Log and the OQRS has been enabled: <https://clublog.org/logsearch/RI0B/AS-68>.

VP2VB ---> The recent VP2VB commemorative DXpedition (11-16 March) made some 18,000 QSOs. "We are currently reviewing the FT8 backup file for more QSOs and getting QSL card design ready for printing", OH2BH says. "It will be a 4-page, full color affair - for this special occasion. LoTW will soon follow". "Digging into the past of the first multi-hopping DXpeditioner Danny Weil, VP2VB was another rich piece of history", he adds. "Spending time at his home on Tortola, British Virgin Islands, gave us a blend of history in its original setting. Together with Austrian DocuFunk archives, headed by Paulina (OE1YPP) and Wolf (OE1WHC), and meeting with Kenneth (VP2VK) and George (VP2VQ) and the local telecom authorities placed us straight back where it all once began. We have now collected most of the material, including Danny's only existing interview: <https://www.qrz.com/db/VP2VB>.

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*** 4 2 5 D X N E W S ***

***** QSL ROUTES *****
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CALL	MANAGER	CALL	MANAGER	CALL	MANAGER
3Z0YL	SP9SX	CE2SV	N7RO	MU2K	GU8ITE
4M1F	YV1JGT	CM6RK	EA7HBC	MX0SNB	G3SVK
4O4T	YU1FW	CN8KD	EA5XX	NL8F	N7RO
4O7CC	UA4CC	CN8PA	RW6HS	OE25JML	OE5JML
4S7KKG	DC0KK	CN8PG	EA7FTR	OG30YL	OH2YL
4U25B	9A2AA	CO8LY	EA7ADH	OG60IPA	OH4MDY
4X6TT	N4GNR	CR5E	CT1ILT	OH0X	OH2TA
5B4AMM	UT5UDX	CX2DK	EA5GL	OL30DXC	OK2PXJ
5B4AOW	RW3RN	CX6DZ	EA5GL	P3AA	RW3RN
5B60AJG	5B4AJG	DF70DARC	DK5DC	PI75SHB	PI4SHB
5P3KP	DL3KP	DM30RSV	DK5ON	PI75ZUT	PA2PKZ
5R8AL	G3SWH	DP70DARC	DK5DC	PS2T	K3IRV
5R8UI	IZ8CCW	E2A	E21EIC	R195AM	RZ5D
5T5PA	PA5X	EA9KB	EA7FTR	R200ANT	RZ3EC
5W1SA	JA1DXA	ED5FDC	EA5J	R2014RK	RX7K
5Z4/G3AB	M0URX	ED5N	EA5KA	S500E	S500
5Z4BU	EA5GL	EE7P	EA7ATX	S5400J	S57WJ
6Y5FS	G3RFS	EO0U	UT7UT	SK60AU	SK2AU
6Y5HN	EA5GL	EO50LW	UT7LW	SU9TH	DL2RMC
7X2HF	7X2ARA	EP4HR	IK2RZQ	T42DX	CO2AME
7X4LV	F6FZG	FM5BH	W3HNC	TG9ADM	EA5GL
8P6ET	KU9C	FM8QR	F5EAN	TG9ADQ	VE7BV
8Q7NC	F6BGC	FS4WBS	IZ1MHY	TG9AJR	M0URX
9A5MX	DJ4MX	GB2PDY	MI0LPO	TG9AOR	EC6DX
9A63AA	9A2AA	GB60ATG	M0OXO	TG9IN	K4TI
9G1SD	AB0GC	GB9SPD	GI0RQK	TM8C	F6CUK
9G5AR	N4GNR	GX3CO	G6XOU	UK8UWG	UK8UC
9K2BS	EC6DX	H44MS	DL2GAC	UN7AB	DL8KAC
9K2GS	EC6DX	HA50KHW	HA0HW	UP7L	UN6LN
9K2HQ	EC6DX	HC5F	HC5VF	V31AM	DL7AMW
9K2OD	EC6DX	HF30150	SQ40	V31AX	M0URX
9K9A	EC6DX	HF576KOC	SQ9PCO	V31GX	M0OXO
9M4CKT	9W6ZAM	HI3Y	RW6HS	V31MA	M0OXO
9M6ZAE	W3HNC	HI7M	RW6HS	VK9NK	SP9FIH
A25SL	N4GNR	HI8S	EA5GL	YB8UTI	YB3MM
A42K	EA5GL	HP2DFA	EC6DX	YU70HFG	YU1HFG
A93LT	A92AA	HP3AK	W4JS	Z81B	IZ0EGA
AP2AUM	IZ8CCW	HP3SS	AC2OV	Z81D	OM3JW
AP2NK	W3HNC	HR5/F2JD	F6AJA	ZA/IZ7PMQ	9A8AOT
BI4SSB	BA4TB	HS0ZJF	ON4AFU	ZF1EJ	K6AM
BW2/JP1RIW	BM2JCC	KG4NE	NM7H	ZF2CA	G4CWH
C4W	5B4WN	KL7SB	N4GNR	ZL7DX	M0OXO
C6AJB	KG4LJB	M0RSE	G3SWH	ZR2A/4	DM5EE
C7A	UA3DX	MU0MXF	RL5D	ZW86LABRE	PY2KP

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